

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: FUJIMORI, Naomi; SEKO, Toshiya; YAMADA, Katsuhiko; MUKAI, Mineo; and SHIINA, Noriyuki

Ser. No.: 10/584,648

Art Unit: 1794

Filed: January 26, 2007

Examiner: Alicia Ann Chevalier

Confirmation No.: 8210

For: EMBOSSED RELEASE PAPER FOR SYNTHETIC LEATHER PRODUCTION AND SUPPORT THEREFOR, AND SYNTHETIC LEATHER USING THE RELEASE PAPER AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE SYNTHETIC LEATHER

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed February 22, 2010, Applicants hereby provisionally elect, with traverse, to prosecute the claims of Group I (claims 1-14 and 32) in this application.

However, Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction requirement since the subject matter of claims 1 - 32 is sufficiently related that a thorough and complete search for the subject matter of the elected claims would necessarily encompass a thorough and complete search for the subject matter of the non-elected claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is clearly stated that "[i]f the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits." It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and improper duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

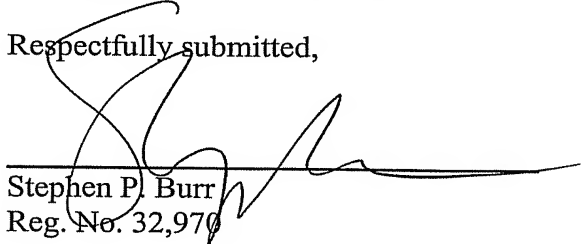
If the Examiner believes that contact with Applicants' attorney would be advantageous toward the disposition of this case, the Examiner is herein requested to call Applicants' attorney at the phone number noted below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1446.

Respectfully submitted,

March 15, 2010

Date



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